

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

ABLAPL No.16860 of 2021

Srikanta Charan Rout* *Petitioner

*Mr. Chittaranjan Pattnaik,
Advocate*

-versus-

State of Odisha* *Opp. Party

*Mr. Deepak Kumar Pani,
Addl. Standing Counsel*

**CORAM:
JUSTICE S.K. SAHOO**

**ORDER
27.01.2022**

Order No.

01. This matter is taken up through video conferencing.
Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and
learned counsel for the State.

This is an application under section 438 of Cr.P.C. for grant of anticipatory bail to the petitioner in connection with Gondi P.S. Case No. 169 of 2005 corresponding to G.R. Case No.986 of 2005 pending in the Court of learned S.D.J.M., Dhenkanal for the commission of the alleged offences punishable under sections 420, 294/34 of the Indian Penal Code and section 3 of the S.C. & S.T. (PoA) Act.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that on the basis of a protest petition, the petitioner is apprehending arrest in connection with this case and some of the co-accused

persons have already been released on bail and therefore, the anticipatory bail application may be favourably considered.

Learned counsel for the State opposed the prayer for anticipatory bail and submitted that the case is of the year 2005 and the petitioner approached this Court after sixteen years.

Considering the submissions made by the learned counsel for the respective parties, while not inclining to grant anticipatory bail to the petitioner, liberty is granted to the petitioner to surrender and move for bail in the Court below within a period of four weeks, in the event of which the learned Courts below shall dispose of the same in accordance with law expeditiously and the claim of parity with the co-accused persons shall be taken into account. The case records shall be made available to the Court concerned for disposal of the bail application.

The ABLAPL stands disposed of.

Parties may utilize the soft copy of this order available in the High Court's website or print out thereof at par with certified copy in the manner prescribed vide office order dated 7th January 2022.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

PKSahoo